OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has not found anything to establish the presence of ISI spies in BARC, HP or BP, and reference to the briefing by Central Bureau of Investigation in the above news report is not correct. Government is fully conscious of the need for constant vigilance in respect of vital Atomic Energy installations and security measures are already in vogue for protecting them.

Alternative Arrangement for Atomic Power Energy Generation Programme

495. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO YADHAV :

DR. ABRAR AHMED :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any alternative arrangement with Government to keep its atomic power energy generation programme as per the schedule planning without the help of erstwhile Soviet Union; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether there is any new atomic power plant, being set up in Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The first stage Indian nuclear power programme is based on Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) of 220 MWe and 500 MWe unit sizes. The design, manufacture, construction, commissioning and operation of such reactors is purely indigenous in nature. For the 2 x 1000 MW Kudankulam Power Project, Soviet assistance was expected but there are uncertainties on account of recent developments in the erstwhile Soviet Union. One of the alternatives for implementing the project is setting up of 500 MW PHWR units with indigenous technology with participation of the concerned State Governments.

(b) Sanction has been given to the addition of two units of 500 MWe at the Tarapur Atomic Power Station in Maharashtra State.

Non-Availability of Vitamin C

496. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the artificial scarcity and non-availability of Vitamin C in the market and consequent exploitation of consumers by traders and the main manufacturers of Vitamin C;

(b) if so, the details of the demand and production capacity and actual production of Vitamin C during last 2 years, month-wise, by main producers, producer-wise;

(c) the reasons for shortfall and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in the matter; and

(d) whether Government are aware of carteling by main manufacturers of Vitamin C, and if so, the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure availability of Vitamin C at reasonable prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (c) There are two producers of Vitamin C bulk drug in the country viz. M/s. Jayant Vitamins Ltd. and Ambalal Sarabhai Enterprises Ltd. Supply of bulk Vitamin C had got dislocated due to shortfall in production of the two units particularly M/s. Jayant Vitamins Ltd. between January to June, 1992. As per information available from